Community Health Centers Offer Drive-up and Drive Thru COVID-19 Testing

Jackson, Miss. --- COVID-19 screening and testing is being offered at the 21 Community Health Centers clinics around the state. Many clinics are offering drive-up /curbside services, and some are offering special drive thru testing dates in the community.

Of the 21 community health center sites, 18 offer drive up or curbside services. Patients need to call ahead to the health center. Once they arrive in the parking lot, they call and talk to the provider on the phone. The providers will come out to the patient’s vehicle to perform the testing, if needed.

Five community health centers in the state have special drive through testing events where no appointment is necessary planned the week of April 20, 2020, including:

Coldwater, Batesville and Tunica, Miss.
Wednesday, April 22, 2020, Aaron E. Henry Community Health Services Center, Inc. Coldwater Clinic, 643 Service Dr., Coldwater, MS 38618
Thursday, April 23, 2020 Aaron E. Henry Community Health Services Center, Inc. Batesville Clinic location, 216 Highway 51 North, Batesville, MS 38606 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Friday, April 24, Arena and Expo Center parking lot, Tunica, 3873 Highway 61, Tunica, MS 38676 from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Provided by Aaron E. Henry Community Health Services Center

Cleveland, Miss. from 8 – 3:30 p.m.
Thursday, April 23, 2020 from 8:00 AM – 3:30 PM
Delta Health Center – Vacant Lot, 806 E. Sunflower Road, Cleveland, MS 38732
(Located off Martin Luther King at E. Sunflower Road – Across from Bolivar Medical Center)
Provided by Delta Health Center

Ocean Springs, Gulfport, Bay St. Louis, Miss. from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Monday, April 20 Jackson County at Mosaic Church parking lot, 2226 Bienville, Blvd., Ocean Springs
Tuesday, April 21 Harrison County at Goodwill parking lot at 2407 31st St., Gulfport.
Wednesday, April 22, in Hancock County at the Depot at 1928 Depot Way, Bay St. Louis
Thursday, April 23, in Jackson County at Mosaic Church parking lot at 2226 Bienville Blvd., Ocean Springs
Friday, April 24 in Harrison County at Goodwill parking lot at 2407 31st St. Gulfport
Provided by Coastal Family Health Center

Laurel, Taylorsville, Waynesboro, Miss. 8 a.m. - 7 p.m. M, Tuesday; 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Wednesday, Thursday, 8 – noon Friday
Monday, April 20, Tuesday, April 21, Friday, April 24 at the Laurel Clinic, 117 South 11th Avenue Laurel, MS 39440
Wednesday, April 22 at the Taylorsville Clinic, 531 Hwy. 28 East, Taylorsville, MS 39168
Thursday, April 23 at the Waynesboro clinic, 713 Lomax Avenue Waynesboro, MS 39367
Provided by Family Health Clinic

Tchula, Krueger, Pickens, Miss. from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Tuesday, April 21 – Mallory Clinic site, 9715 MS-12, Tchula, MS 39169
Click here for a list of health centers around Mississippi and how to get more information about each health center’s clinics screening and testing options.

From the April 3 reports from the Health Resource and Services Administration (HRSA), 597 number of tests were done at community health centers in Mississippi; 28 were positive for COVID-19. The results were reported to the Mississippi State Department of Health.

Any Mississippian having symptoms of COVID-19 or any health problem can turn to Mississippi’s community health centers for help.

Community health centers provide local access to primary healthcare needs ranging from screenings, testing, routine check-ups, chronic disease management, to urgent and emergent dental care to mental health care. Especially valuable during this COVID-19 epidemic, community health centers across the state lessen the impact on emergency departments and reduce the need for hospitalization by providing effective and efficient primary care in the community where residents live.

“Community Health Centers are on the frontline of defense,” said Janice Sherman, CEO of the Community Health Center Association of Mississippi. “During this COVID-19 crisis, the health centers mitigate pressures on hospital emergency departments and the need for hospital beds by providing a place where anyone can be seen for screening and testing. Staying out of the emergency room cuts down on costs to the overall health care system.”

Mississippi’s 21 community health centers make up the largest federally funded primary care system of outpatient clinics in the state of Mississippi. With more than 200 sites located in communities, schools and mobile units, community health centers employ more than 1,800 medical professionals and, in many cases, are the largest employer in rural communities. These medical professionals at community health centers care for more than 308,000 men, women and children.

Telehealth is also available at many of the health center clinics statewide. To find a community health center near you, visit chcams.org and click on Find a Health Center at the top of the page.

The Community Health Center Association of Mississippi supports its members in their collaborative efforts, and advocates for the provision of equal access to quality comprehensive health care services and for the elimination of health disparities in the state.